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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMMIGRATION

WORKING COMMITTEE AT THE SECRETARIAT LEVEL

Letter sent on 5th October, 1950, to all Latin American States Members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and for information to other States Members of the Commission

I have the honour to refer to the subject of economic development and immigration which was considered at the Third Session of the Economic Commission for Latin America held in June at Montevideo. At that Session many delegates stressed the role which immigration might play in the economic development of Latin American countries and it was decided to set up a Working Committee at the Secretariat level to study the relation between economic development of Latin America and immigration; to provide the Latin American countries, at their request, with surveys which would ascertain their economic capacity to receive immigration; and to advise and assist these countries regarding the manner in which economic development may be promoted by immigration, and on the possibility of adopting specific plans and projects for economic development involving immigration for which financial and technical assistance may be needed from international organizations.

This proposal was adopted unanimously, and I enclose a copy of the Resolution dealing with the matter. This decision was later approved by the Economic and Social Council.

*Reproduced, with minor editorial changes, from the original issued in Santiago, Chile.

I have to inform you that the Working Committee on Economic Development and Immigration will shortly be holding its first meeting in Santiago and that the International Labour Office, the Food and Agricultural Organization and the International Refugee Organization have appointed representatives. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization are appointing persons to maintain liaison with the work of the Committee in order that they may participate at the appropriate stage.

I would like to draw your attention to article (b) of the terms of reference of the Committee and to enquire whether the Working Committee can be of assistance to your Government.

(signed) Eugenio Castillo
Deputy Executive Secretary